

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-7 and add Claim 8 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An inkjet printing apparatus, having a carriage incorporating an inkjet printhead where nozzles for discharging ink are arranged in a predetermined direction, for performing printing by scanning the carriage with respect to a printing medium in a direction orthogonal to the predetermined direction, comprising:

first and second conveyance means, arranged at ~~the front and rear~~ an upstream side and a downstream side with respect to a printing-medium conveyance direction of an area of the printing medium scanned by the printhead, for conveying a the printing medium while holding the printing medium; and

nozzle setting means for, when the printing medium is held only by one of said first and second conveyance means, setting a nozzle to be used for printing from ~~the~~ nozzles ~~where~~ for which a distance between a discharge surface of ~~the~~ each nozzle and a printing surface of the printing medium falls within a predetermined range, in accordance with a position of a the printing medium in a the printing-medium conveyance direction.

2. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle setting means makes a setting so that the nozzles ~~where a~~ for which the distance between the discharge surface and the printing surface of the printing medium falls within ~~a~~ the predetermined range are divided in plural times of scanning.

3. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein during the plural times of scanning, nozzles to be used for printing are changed, instead of conveying the printing medium by at least one of said first and second conveyance means.

4. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle setting means makes a setting to use nozzles at the ~~rear~~ upstream side with respect to the conveyance direction for printing a front-end side of the printing medium, and to use nozzles at the ~~front~~ downstream side with respect to the conveyance direction for printing a rear-end side of the printing medium.

5. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle setting means makes a setting to use all nozzles when the printing medium is held by both ~~the~~ said first and second conveyance means.

6. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle setting means further comprises an association table of associating a nozzle to be used and a distance with respect to the ~~printing-medium~~ printing-medium conveyance direction for each type of printing medium.

7. (Currently Amended) A control method of an inkjet printing apparatus, having a carriage incorporating an inkjet printhead where nozzles for discharging ink are arranged in a predetermined direction, for performing printing by scanning the carriage with respect to a printing medium in a direction orthogonal to the predetermined direction, ~~said the~~ the apparatus having first and second conveyance means that are arranged at ~~the front and rear~~ an upstream side and a downstream side with respect to a printing-medium conveyance direction of an area of the printing medium scanned by the printhead, comprising:

a determining step of determining whether or not the printing medium is held only by one of the first and second conveyance means based on a position of the printing medium in a the printing-medium conveyance direction; and

a nozzle setting step of, when it is ~~determined~~ said determining step determines that the printing medium is held only by one of the first and second conveyance means, setting a nozzle to be used for printing from ~~the~~ nozzles ~~where~~ for which a distance between a discharge surface of ~~the~~ each nozzle and a printing surface of the printing medium falls within a predetermined range.

8. (New) An inkjet printing apparatus, having a carriage incorporating an inkjet printhead where nozzles for discharging ink are arranged in a predetermined direction, for performing printing by scanning the carriage with respect to a printing medium in a direction orthogonal to the predetermined direction, comprising:

first and second conveyance means, arranged at an upstream side and a downstream side with respect to a printing-medium conveyance direction of an area of the printing medium scanned by the printhead, for conveying the printing medium while holding the printing medium; and

selecting means for, when the printing medium is held only by one of said first and second conveyance means, selecting a nozzle to be used for printing from nozzles for which a distance between a discharge surface of each nozzle and a printing surface of the printing medium falls within a predetermined range, in accordance with a position of the printing medium in the printing-medium conveyance direction.